

Sir:

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	
Yasuyuki SONODA et al.)	Group Art Unit: 2614
Serial No. 09/545,851)	Examiner: Michael W. Hoye
Filed: April 10, 2000)	Confirmation No. 3157
For: NETWORK COMMU SYSTEM	NICATION PRELIMINA)) RY AMEI	Date: September 22, 2004 RECFIVED SEP 2 3 2004 Technology Center 2600
Mail Stop Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450			

In response to the Office Action dated April 22, 2004, and prior to the examination of the concurrently filed Request for Continued Examination, please amend the above identified application as follows.